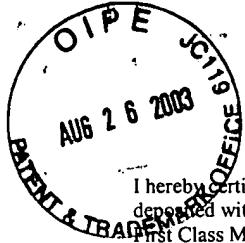


1774



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

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s/ Sherry Thompson  
Sherry Thompson

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TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hager

Serial No.: 10/003,529  
Confirmation No.: 8583

Filed: 10/31/2001

For: Compact, hybrid fiber reinforced rods  
for optical cable reinforcements and  
method for making same

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: Jill M. Gray

#9

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant brings the art document(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified application.

No representation is made that the art cited constitutes prior art or that the art cited is the most relevant art. The reference(s) cited so that the Examiner will be aware of material known to the applicant. The Examiner is encouraged to consider the cited reference(s) and make an independent determination of materiality.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97 (c)--i.e., after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first. A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is provided below.

The undersigned attorney certifies that each art document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

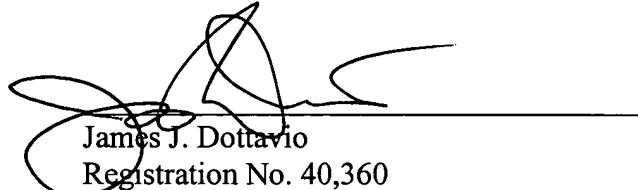
The cited art documents are in the English language, except for EP 1 037 082 A1. An English-language abstract of the EP 1 037 082 A1 document is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm consideration of the cited documents by initialing the attached Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy of the initialed form to Applicant.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this statement, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) in the event that the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97(b) has elapsed, please charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8-26-03



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